

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference MJ/CS/STS.32	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 00793	International filing date (day/month/year) 06/03/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 04/03/1999
Applicant SURFACE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1
☐ None of the figures.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C01B7/24 B01J7/00 B01J12/00 B01J19/24 B01J19/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C01B B01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, CHEM ABS Data, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 014, no. 541 (E-1007), 29 November 1990 (1990-11-29) & JP 02 230720 A (NEC CORP), 13 September 1990 (1990-09-13) abstract ---	1-9
A	WO 98 27005 A (BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS PLC) 25 June 1998 (1998-06-25) claims 1,7,8,13-15 page 1, line 34 -page 2, line 16 page 3, line 5 - line 6 page 4, line 23 -page 5, line 2 --- -/--	1-9

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 June 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/07/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Rigondaud, B

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 07919 A (INCHEM LTD; SKONE JAMES ROBERT EDMUND) 18 February 1999 (1999-02-18) claims 1,3,4,14-16 page 10, line 28 -page 11, line 2 ----	1-3,5-9
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 13, 30 November 1998 (1998-11-30) & JP 10 212582 A (CENTRAL GLASS CO LTD), 11 August 1998 (1998-08-11) abstract ----	1,7-9
A	US 3 854 886 A (PURSLEY J) 17 December 1974 (1974-12-17) the whole document ----	1,7-9
A	GB 1 268 377 A (JAMES EPHRAIM LOVELOCK) 29 March 1972 (1972-03-29) the whole document ----	1,7-9
A	US 3 976 757 A (TROUT HORACE Q ET AL) 24 August 1976 (1976-08-24) -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00793

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
JP 02230720	A		13-09-1990	JP	2743443 B	22-04-1998
WO 9827005	A		25-06-1998	AU	7737898 A	15-07-1998
				EP	0946407 A	06-10-1999
WO 9907919	A		18-02-1999	AU	8737998 A	01-03-1999
				EP	1007765 A	14-06-2000
				ZA	9807134 A	09-02-1999
JP 10212582	A		11-08-1998	JP	2823555 B	11-11-1998
US 3854886	A		17-12-1974	US	3876754 A	08-04-1975
GB 1268377	A		29-03-1972	NONE		
US 3976757	A		24-08-1976	CA	998229 A	12-10-1976
				GB	1444534 A	04-08-1976